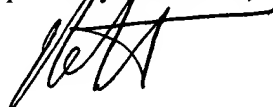


REMARKS

In response to the rejection entered by the Board Of Patent Appeals And Interferences on February 20, 2004, please enter the above amendment to claims 16 and 20. No change is made to claim 3, because claim 3 refers to the organic solvent vapor atmosphere and not the relatively low volatility solvent of claim 1. Claim 16 is made dependent on claim 1 and now recites that the alkoxysilane gel composition further comprises an alcohol or a polyol. Claim 20 is corrected from 1,4,1,4-butanediol, to 1,4,-butanediol. It is submitted that this modification effectively overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: April 20, 2004

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage pre-paid in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on April 20, 2004.



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